

Claim 1 recites the following limitations:

An intermediary apparatus adapted to be communicatively coupled with an electronic device, said electronic device having an externally disposed accessible slot, said intermediary apparatus comprising:

- a first module having an opening, said first module adapted to be communicatively coupled with said electronic device, said first module adapted to receive a second module;

- a controller coupled with said first module, said controller for controlling communication between said first module and said second module, provided said second module is inserted in said first module;

- a first electrical connector coupled with said first module, said first electrical connector adapted to enable communication between said first module and said electronic device; and

- a second electrical connector coupled with said first module, said second electrical connector adapted to enable communication between said first module and said second module, provided said second module is inserted in said first module.

Claim 2 recites the following limitation:

The intermediary apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said first module is adapted to be inserted into said accessible slot of said electronic device.

Applicant's invention, as recited in Claim 1 is drawn to providing a removable apparatus that is coupleable to an electronic device and which is comprised of a first module and a second module, where the first module is adapted to receive the second module.

Claim 1 is also drawn to providing a controller coupled with the first module for controlling communication between the first module and the second module when the second module is inserted in the first module. Claim 1 is additionally drawn to providing a first and second electrical connector where the first electrical connector enables communication between the electronic device and the first module and the second electrical connector enables communication between the first module and the second module. Claim 2 is drawn to providing a first module that is adapted to be inserted in the electronic device's accessible slot.

Furthermore, Applicant's invention further claims limitations of the first module being a compact memory device and the second module being a communication device, or

the first module being a communication device and the second module a compact memory device, as claimed in Claim 4 and Claim 5, respectively.

Thus, Applicant's invention recites a first module adapted to receive a second module, wherein the first module is a communication device and the second module is a compact memory device. Applicant's invention further recites that the functionality of the first and second modules can be switched, such that the first module can be a compact memory device and the second module can be a communication device.

Applicant also recites that a compact memory device can be, but is not limited to, an SD (secure digital) card, a MMC (multimedia card), a memory stick, and/or a compact flash device. A compact memory device provides additional and portable data storage functionality and which can be readily utilized by a computer system enabled to receive the compact memory device. Data from an electronic device can be transferred to the compact memory device, and then that data can be transferred to an alternative electronic device via the compact memory card. Utilizing the compact memory card for data transfer between electronic devices obviates the need for multiple types of interfaces to enable data transference.

Nelson, as understood by Applicant, suggests a peripheral component 108, e.g., a PCMCIA card, to be coupled to an intelligent electronic device, e.g., a desktop or laptop computer or other electronic device. As understood by Applicant, Nelson further suggests a PCMCIA card 108 having one or more communication interfaces disposed thereon. In a preferred example, Nelson describes a receptacle interface, e.g., an X-Jack™ interface, (see Column 3, lines 41-43) disposed on component 108. In another example, Nelson suggests an RJ-11 (telephone) and/or an RJ-45 (Ethernet) interface disposed thereon. Further, as understood by Applicant, Nelson suggests a wireless interface and a wireline interface.

Thus, as understood by Applicant, Nelson suggests a peripheral component having communication interfaces disposed thereon which allow host computer device 120 to connect through a phone, Ethernet, X-Jack™, wireless communication device, or wireline connector, to the Internet or a LAN125. The interfaces are the receiving portions that are adapted to receive the insertable portion of phone or Ethernet wiring, e.g., RJ-11s or RJ-45s, X-Jack™ interconnectors, or wireline interfaces.

However, Nelson, as understood by Applicant, does not describe, teach or suggest a peripheral component 108 that can be configured to receive alternative modules, e.g., a compact memory card, as claimed by Applicant. Nor does Nelson, as understood by Applicant, describe, teach, or suggest a manner in which switching the functionality of the communication interface with the functionality of component 108 can be realized. Furthermore, Nelson does not suggest, describe, or teach a compact memory device that can receive a peripheral component, nor does Nelson teach, suggest, or describe a peripheral component that can be configured to receive a compact memory device, as claimed by Applicant. Nor does Nelson teach, suggest, or describe data transference in a manner other than through utilization of wireless or wireline technologies.

Applicant respectfully asserts that Nelson does not suggest, teach, or describe an intermediary apparatus having a first module and a second module, wherein the first module is adapted to receive the second module, as claimed in Claims 1, 10, and 21. Further, Applicant respectfully asserts that Nelson does not suggest, describe, or teach that the first module can be a compact memory device and the second module can be a communication device, as claimed in Claims 4, 13, and 23. Additionally, Applicant respectfully asserts that Nelson does not describe, suggest, or teach a first module that can be a communication

device and a second module can be a compact memory device, as claimed in Claims 5, 14, and 24.

CONCLUSION

For the above rationale, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is patentable over Nelson et al, 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e). As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and Claims 1-24 be allowed.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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